AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 1-12 and 25-36 without prejudice to applicants' right to file a continuation or divisional applications(s) directed to the inventions claimed in the cancelled claims.

The Examiner also has requested that the claims be reformatted to comply with 37 CFR 1.75(i) and to make the claims easier to read and understand. Accordingly, applicant has reformatted the claims in compliance with 37 CFR 1.75(i). See listing attached.

LISTING OF CLAIMS

Claims 1-12 cancelled.

13.   (Original) A money item acceptor comprising: a signal source to produce a money item parameter signal as a function of a sensed characteristic of a money item,

a store to provide data corresponding to a normal acceptance range of values of the parameter signal for a money item of a particular denomination, the range including relatively high and low acceptance probability regions wherein the value of a parameter signal corresponds to a relatively high or low probability of an occurrence of a sensed money item of said particular denomination, and

a processor configuration operable

to determine when an occurrence of the parameter signal corresponding to a first money item adopts a first predetermined value relationship, and in response thereto, to compare the value of a subsequent occurrence of the parameter signal corresponding to a second money item with data corresponding to a restricted acceptance range as compared with the normal acceptance range, and

to provide an output corresponding to acceptability of the second money item if the second occurrence of the parameter signal falls within said restricted acceptance range, said processor configuration being further operable

to determine when an occurrence of the parameter signal corresponding to a first money item adopts a second predetermined value relationship with a range of values within said high acceptance probability region for a money item of a particular denomination, and in response thereto, to compare the value of a subsequent occurrence of the parameter signal

corresponding to a second money item with data corresponding to an internal security range

within said restricted acceptance range, and to provide an output corresponding to acceptability

of the second money item if the second occurrence of the parameter signal falls outside said

internal security range.

14.   (Original) An acceptor according to claim 13 wherein, said processor

configuration is further operable to determine when a first money item parameter signal adopts

said second predetermined value relationship, and in response thereto, to compare subsequent

occurrences of the parameter signal with said internal security range, and

if a first number of them correspond to acceptable money items, to discontinue

comparison with the internal security range of values, and,

after discontinuing comparison with the internal security range of values, and in response

to a subsequent money item parameter signal adopting said second predetermined value

relationship, to compare subsequent occurrences of the parameter signal with said internal

security range, and

if a second number of them correspond to acceptable money items, to discontinue

comparison with the internal security range of values again, the second number being different

from the first number.

15.   (Original) An acceptor according to claim 14 wherein the second number is

greater than the first number.

16.   (Previously Amended) An acceptor according to claim 14 wherein the processor

is operable to increment said first number by a predetermined amount to define said second

number.

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17.   (Previously Amended) An acceptor according to claim 14 comprising a counter operable to count said first number and thereafter to count said second number.

18.   (Original) An acceptor according to claim 17 wherein the processor is operable to reset the count counted by the counter to a default count value in the event that there is no occurrence of a money item parameter signal within a predetermined security time period.

19.   (Previously Amended) An acceptor according to claim 13 wherein said second predetermined value relationship occurs when an occurrence of the money item parameter signal has a value within said range of values within said high acceptance probability region for a money item of a particular denomination.

20.   (Previously Amended) An acceptor according to claim 13 wherein the processor is operable to compare occurrences of the money item parameter signal with said internal security range for a first predetermined time period following an occurrence of the money item parameter signal that has said second, predetermined value relationship, and then to discontinue comparison with the internal security range of values.

21.   (Original) An acceptor according to claim 20 wherein the processor is operable, after discontinuing comparison with the internal security range of values, to compare occurrences of the money item parameter signal with said internal security range for a second predetermined time period following an occurrence of the money item parameter signal adopting said second predetermined value relationship, and then to discontinuing comparison with the internal security range of values range, said second time period being greater than the first time period.

22.   (Original) An acceptor according to claim 21 wherein the processor is operable to

define the second time period as a predetermined percentage increase of the first time period.

23.   (Previously Amended) An acceptor according to claim 21 including a timer operable to time said first time period and said second time period.

24.   (Previously Amended) An acceptor according to claim 21 wherein the processor is operable to reset the time period timed by the timer to a default value in the event that there is no occurrence of a money item parameter signal within a predetermined security time period.

Claims 25-36 cancelled.

OHS East:160410974.1